

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/JP03/13182

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl.⁷ G06F9/06, 12/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl.⁷ G06F9/06, 12/14, 15/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1922-1996 | Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1994-2004 |
| Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1971-2004 | Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho | 1996-2004 |

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X | JP 2001-211170 A (Casio Computer Co., Ltd.), 03 August, 2001 (03.08.01), Full text; Figs. 1 to 7 | 1-4, 10-13, 19, 20 |
| Y | same as the above | 5-9, 14-18, 24-26 |
| A | same as the above (Family: none) | 21-23 |
| Y | JP 2002-223402 A (Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd.), 09 August, 2002 (09.08.02), Full text; Figs. 1 to 14 | 5-9, 14-18, 24-26 |
| Y | page 8, right column, lines 27 to 45 (Family: none) | 21-23 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

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|---|--|
| * Special categories of cited documents: | "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone |
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| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "&" document member of the same patent family |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means | |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | |

Date of the actual completion of the international search
13 January, 2004 (13.01.04)

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

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International application No.

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X | JP 8-44608 A (Canon Inc.), 16 February, 1996 (16.02.96), Full text; Figs. 1 to 6 (Family: none) | 27 |